

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the non-final Office Action dated May 5, 2005, is believed to be fully responsive to the points of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to the Specification because of certain informalities. The Specification is amended above accordingly.

Claims 1-3, 5-13, 15-24 and 26-31 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 15, 16, 22, 24 and 26 are amended above. No new matter has been added by the amendments. Claims 4, 14 and 25 are cancelled above.

Claims 3, 13 and 24 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 1, 11, 20, 22 and 30 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over US Patent No. 6,132,377 (Bolorforosh). Claims 1-3, 11-13, 20-25, 30 and 31 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) over Frouin, in view of Bolorforosh. Claims 18, 19, 28 and 29 have been rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over Frouin, in view of Bolorforosh, in further view of US Patent No. 4,265,120 (Morris). The Examiner indicated that Claims 4-10, 14-17 and 25-27 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants respectfully submit the following remarks in support of the patentability of the claims.

1. Claims 3, 13 and 24:

Claims 3, 13 and 24 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claims 3, 13 and 24 are amended above to remove the informality noted by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

2. Claims 1-3 and 5-10:

The Examiner indicated that original Claim 4 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to include the additional recitations of original Claim 4. Claims 2, 3 and 5-10 depend from Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1-3 and 5-10 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 USC 102(b) and the rejections of Claims 1-3 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

3. Claims 11-13, 15 and 18-21:

The Examiner indicated that original Claim 14 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 11 has been amended to include the additional recitations of original Claim 14. Claims 12, 13, 15 and 18-21 depend from Claim 11. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 11-13, 15 and 18-21 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 11 and 20 under 35 USC 102(b) and the rejections of Claims 11-13 and 18-21 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

4. Claims 16 and 17:

The Examiner indicated that original Claims 16 and 17 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 16 has been rewritten in independent form. Claim 17 depends from Claim 16. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 16 and 17 are in condition for allowance.

5. Claims 22-24 and 28-31:

The Examiner indicated that original Claim 25 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 22 has been amended to include the additional recitations of original Claim 25. Claims 23, 24 and 28-31 depend from Claim 22. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 22-24 and 28-31 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the rejections of Claims 22 and 30 under 35 USC 102(b) and the rejections of Claims 22-24 and 28-31 under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

6. Claims 26 and 27:

The Examiner indicated that original Claims 26 and 27 contained allowable subject matter. Claim 26 has been rewritten in independent form. Claim 27 depends from Claim 26. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 26 and 27 are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Please charge all applicable fees associated with the submittal of this Amendment and any other fees applicable to this application to the Assignee's Deposit Account No. 07-0868.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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